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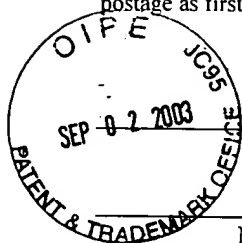
Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Amir N. Penn

Signature

August 27 2003

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

#15 / Amend
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Our Case No. 7103/205

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Li et al.

Serial No. 09/938,056

Filing Date: August 23, 2001

For MULTI-STEP POLISHING SYSTEM
AND PROCESS OF USING SAME

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) Examiner: George Nguyen
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) Group Art Unit No.: 3723
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants file the enclosed preliminary amendment in reply to the Office Action dated May 28, 2003 as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.